



Prescribed Fire

CONCEPT

Prescribed fire is a practice used to maintain fuel levels and ensure a healthy ecosystem.

OBJECTIVE

Students will be able to explain some of the guidelines for a Burn Plan when planning a prescribed fire and describe the breakdowns in the Burn Plan for an actual prescribed fire.

METHOD

Have students work in groups to read through their handout and answer the questions on their investigation worksheet.

MATERIALS

–Student Handout
–Student Investigation Worksheet

DURATION

1 class session

Procedure

1. Ask the students to read the *Prescribed Fire* handout.
2. Discuss the various considerations for a Burn Plan.
3. Ask students to read the information given on the *11-Student Investigation Worksheet* about the Bandelier, New Mexico fire and answer the questions.
4. Have students present their answers.
5. Discuss with the students:
 - the importance of good coordination and management guidelines, and following them
 - the variables including weather conditions
 - emergency and contingency plans
 - adequate staffing

Key Words

Backfire

Crew

Ditch

Drought

Firebreak

Forecast

Hand Line

Headfire

Prescribed Fire

Smoldering

Wind Speed